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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/003,507 | 11/01/2001 | Paul E. Andreasen | 381-27-033 | 9750 |
| 7590 | 01/23/2004 | | EXAMINER | |
| KOPPEL & JACOBS SUITE 107 555 ST. CHARLES DRIVE THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91360 | | | DINH, TUANT | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2827 | |
| DATE MAILED: 01/23/2004 | | | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/003,507 | ANDREASEN ET AL. |
| | Examiner Tuan T Dinh | Art Unit 2827 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-36,39-41 and 44-46 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-24 and 44-46 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 25-36,39-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on 10/14/03 has been disapproved.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 25-30, 33-36, and 39-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee (U. S. Patent 6,171,131 B1).

As to claim 25, Lee discloses a circuit board holder (23, column 3, line 14) as shown in figures 1-4 comprising:

a faceplate (231, column 4, line 11) and walls (234, column 4, line 12) projecting from an inside of the faceplate, the circuit board holder also has circuit board retainers (236, column 4, line 18) at a pair of opposite ones of the walls, said retainers (236) extending longitudinally along said walls (figure 1 shows a latching hook 236 extending longitudinally along arms 234); and a holder retainer (237, column 4, line 19) at an edge of the face-plate (see figure 1).

As to claim 26, Lee discloses a circuit board holder as shown in figures 1-4 wherein at least one of another pair of the wall has a lateral opening covering more than one half of that one wall.

As to claims 27-29, Lee discloses a circuit board holder as shown in figure 1 wherein the circuit board retainers (236) are inside of the circuit board holder (23) and are external of an inside space (see figure 1) of the circuit board holder.

As to claims 30, 35-36, Lee discloses a circuit board holder as shown in figure 1 including extensions of the pair of opposite walls (234) beyond an inside of the circuit board holder (23). The circuit board retainers (236) are on the extensions and insert circuit board (not shown, column 3, line 11) extending across the circuit board holder between the pair of opposite walls (234) and extending between the circuit board retainers on the extensions.

As to claims 33-34, Lee discloses a circuit board holder as shown in figures 1-4 wherein the holder retainer (237) includes a pair of resilient snaps (see figure 1) at the pair of opposite walls (234).

As to claim 39, Lee discloses a circuit board holder as shown in figures 1-4 including an inserted circuit board having lateral catches (236) externally of a space inside the circuit board holder, the extensions of the pair of opposite walls (234); and the circuit board retainers on the extensions and lateral catches.

As to claim 40, Lee discloses a circuit board holder as shown in figures 1-4 including an aperture in the faceplate; and obviously a circuit board having a LED's consider such as a signal lamp in the aperture.

As to claim 41, Lee discloses a circuit board holder as shown in figures 1-4 including panel-accommodating serrations in the holder retainer (see figure 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee ('131) in view of Lai et al (U. S. Patent 5,969,946).

As to claims 31-32, Lee discloses all the limitations of the claimed invention, except for circuit board retainers include space rails or several spaced rails in each of the pair of opposite walls. Lai shows the circuit board retainers as shown in figures 2 and 3 having space rails or several spaced rails in each of opposite walls.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify a circuit board holder of Lee and provide the circuit board retainers including space rails or several spaced rails in each of the pair of opposite walls as taught by Lai for the purpose of retaining one or more circuit boards inserted into the circuit board holder.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 10/14/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues in claim 25:

- (a) Lee's reference does not a circuit board holder, the holder includes circuit board retainers for holding a circuit board, and the retainer are configured to slideably receive and hole the circuit board.
- (b) the assembly disclosed by the Lee's reference does not hold or provide support for a circuit board or multiple circuit boards, and the assembly does not even in physical contact with a circuit board.
- (d) the assembly does not hold or prevent movement the circuit board in more than one direction.

Examiner disagrees.

Response to argument (a), the Lee's reference discloses a holder (23, column 4, line 6), the holder (23) engages with a first dielectric housing (10) fixed to a circuit board (column 3, lines 10-11), so that the holder (23) is engaged to the circuit board by the housing (10). Thus, the holder (23) is a circuit board holder.

The limitations of "the holder includes circuit board retainers for holding a circuit board, and the retainer are configured to slideably receive and hole the circuit board." do not claimed in claim 25. Therefore, examiner does not need to address these comments.

Response to argument (b), the limitation of " a circuit board holder does hold/provide/support for a circuit board or multiple circuit boards and does even in physical contact with a circuit board" as described by applicant, which do not claimed in the claim language, for example claim 25 does not suggest or claim about a circuit

board or multiple circuit boards. Therefore, examiner does not need to address these comments.

Response to argument (d), same as explained in the arguments (a) and (b), examiner does not need to address these comments.

Since, the applicant's arguments are incorrect, claim 25 is moot rejected under 102 section, and claims 26-31, 33-36, and 39-41 are not argued by applicant because these claims depend on claim 25; so that, claims 26-31, 33-36, and 39-41 are moot rejected under 102 section.

Claim 32 is rejected under 103 section, since claim 25 is still moot rejected under 102 section; therefore, the combination of Lee's reference in view of Lai's reference are proper rejected under 103 section based on the primary reference of Lee.

Conclusion

7. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan T Dinh whose telephone number is 703-306-5856. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kammie Cuneo can be reached on 703-308-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0658.

Tuan Dinh
January 16, 2004.

Carl Whitehead
CARL WHITEHEAD, JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800